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Respectfully submitted,



Jason C. Huang
Registration No. 46,222
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

<i>Application Number</i>	10/621,971
<i>Filing Date</i>	July 17, 2003
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Bernd-Georg Pietras
<i>Art Unit</i>	3672
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Frank Tsay
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	MRKS/0039.C1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0479583	04-08-1992	Gonzalez, et al.		
		EP 1148206	10-24-2001	Scott, et al.		
		GB 2381809	05-14-2003	Ohmer		
		GB 2347445	09-06-2000	Metcalfe, et al.		
		WO 99/24689	05-20-1999	Collins		
		WO 99/04135	01-28-1999	Collins		
		WO 97/05360	02-13-1997	Collins		
		WO 03/074836	09-12-2003	Philip		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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